

Appl. No. : **10/719,619**
Filed : **November 20, 2003**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-33 (Cancelled)

34. (Previously presented): A method of enhancing a production of antibodies specific for a viral antigen comprising:

identifying a subject in need of an enhanced production of antibodies specific for a viral antigen; and

providing to said subject an immunogenic composition comprising a viral antigen and ribavirin.

35. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is at least 0.25mg.

36. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 100mg.

37. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 25mg.

38. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 1mg.

39. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is at least 0.1mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

40. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.1mg ribavirin to about 1.0 mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

41. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 1.1mg ribavirin to about 2.0 mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

42. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 2.1mg ribavirin to about 3.0mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

43. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 3.1mg ribavirin to about 4.0mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

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44. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein said antigen is obtained from a virus selected from the group consisting of hepatitis A virus, hepatitis B virus, and hepatitis C virus.

45. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 34, wherein said antigen is obtained from hepatitis C virus.

46. (Previously presented): A method of enhancing a production of antibodies specific for a viral antigen comprising:

providing an immunogenic composition comprising a viral antigen and ribavirin to a subject; and

measuring the production of antibodies specific for said viral antigen.

47. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 46, wherein said measuring comprises measuring a reduction of viral load.

48. (Previously presented): A method of treating or preventing a disease comprising:
identifying a subject in need of treatment or prevention of a disease; and
co-administering to said subject a composition comprising an antigen and a composition comprising ribavirin.

49. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 48, wherein the antigen and ribavirin are administered in a single composition.

50. (Previously presented): The method of Claim 48, wherein the disease is selected from the group consisting of the disease caused by hepatitis A virus, the disease caused by hepatitis B virus, and the disease caused by hepatitis C virus.

51. (New): A method of increasing the titer of viral antigen-specific IgG antibodies in a subject in need thereof comprising:

identifying a subject in need of an increase in titer of IgG antibodies that are specific for a viral antigen; and

providing said subject an immunogenic composition comprising ribavirin and said viral antigen.

52. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein said viral antigen is a hepatitis antigen.

53. (New): The method of Claim 52, wherein said hepatitis antigen is an antigen from hepatitis A virus, hepatitis B virus, or hepatitis C virus.

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54. (New): The method of Claim 53, wherein said viral antigen is a hepatitis C virus antigen.

55. (New): The method of Claim 54, wherein said viral antigen is an NS3 antigen.

56. (New): The method of Claim 54, wherein said viral antigen is an NS4A antigen.

57. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 100mg.

58. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 25mg.

59. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 1mg.

60. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is at least 0.1mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

61. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.1mg ribavirin to about 1.0 mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

62. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 1.1mg ribavirin to about 2.0 mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

63. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 2.1mg ribavirin to about 3.0mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

64. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 3.1mg ribavirin to about 4.0mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

65. (New): The method of Claim 51, wherein the amount of ribavirin is at least 0.25mg.

66. (New): A method of enhancing a T cell response to a viral antigen in a subject in need thereof comprising:

identifying a subject in need of an improvement in a T cell response to a viral antigen; and

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providing said subject an immunogenic composition comprising ribavirin and said viral antigen.

67. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein said viral antigen is a hepatitis antigen.

68. (New): The method of Claim 67, wherein said hepatitis antigen is an antigen from hepatitis A virus, hepatitis B virus, or hepatitis C virus.

69. (New): The method of Claim 68, wherein said viral antigen is a hepatitis C virus antigen.

70. (New): The method of Claim 69, wherein said viral antigen is an NS3 antigen.

71. (New): The method of Claim 69, wherein said viral antigen is an NS4A antigen.

72. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is at least 0.25mg.

73. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 100mg.

74. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 25mg.

75. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.25mg and 1mg.

76. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is at least 0.1mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

77. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 0.1mg ribavirin to about 1.0 mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

78. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 1.1mg ribavirin to about 2.0 mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

79. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 2.1mg ribavirin to about 3.0mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.

80. (New): The method of Claim 66, wherein the amount of ribavirin is between about 3.1mg ribavirin to about 4.0mg ribavirin per kg body weight of a subject receiving said composition.